IMT Nuremberg Archives

H – 955

International Court of Justice

H0955 – 0001

OK

OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT OF TESTIMONY FOR THE DEFENSE OF ORGANIZATIONS, TAKEN BEFORE A COMMISSION APPOINTED BY THE INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH 4 OF THE ORDER OF THE TRIBUNAL DATED 13 MARCH 1946.

14 June 1946

COMMISSIONER:

Captain Joseph Tubridy

THE SS

(THE COMMISSION CONVENED AT 1105 HOURS.)

KARL GUENTHER MOLT, a witness, took the stand and testified as follows:

BY CAPTAIN TUBRIDY:

Q What is your name?

A Karl Guenther Molt.

Q Will you raise your right hand and repeat this oath after me:

I swear by God, the Almighty and Omniscient, that I will speak the pure truth and will withhold and add nothing.

(The witness repeated the oath.)

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: You may sit down.

DR. KOESSL: The witness, Molt, as a former supervising and teaching officer at the SS Junker Schools at Bad Toelz and Braunschweig, is supposed to make statements to show whether the officer material of the Waffen-SS were taught any criminal goals or criminal methods and that any possible actions against the law of War were due to the result of the organization of the SS or the teachings of the SS.

DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY DR. KOESSL:

Q Witness, since when are you with the Waffen-SS?

H0955 - 0003

A I entered the Political Readiness Squad, Wuerttenberg, in June of 1933, which was later made into an SS Reserve Group, and since then I have been with the Waffen-SS.

Q How strong at that time was the rush of people to the SS JunkerSchool to become SS officers?

A For the first classes, as I later on found out, there were 4,800 volunteers. From these 4,800, 123 assorted men were selected and were given a pre-school training. Of these 123, 8 came to the SS Junker School of which only 4 passed.

Q After which dividing line did the permission to enter the SS Junker School occur?

A With the exception of the first groups and with the exception of a very few exceptions which were ordered by the Reichsfuehrer-SS, the following standards had to be met by the candidates: They had to come out of the Waffen SS, that is they had to have served their duty with the Army. They must have proved their capability as a non-commissioned officer with those units and must have reached that position. Their character and moral standards had to be already proved within the outfit, that is as a comrade among the other soldiers and as a leader while he was a non-commissioned officer. During the war it also was necessary that a person was decorated for bravery before the enemy. No special education or background was required when these Junkers were selected. The main points were their physical ability, their spiritual life, that they were brave and that they had good moral character.

Q What was the position occupied by the SS Junker School in the SS?

A The SS Junker Schools educated and trained the coming leaders of the Waffen-SS. As the number of men that came through and were trained by the SS Junker School increased, these men entered the various units and

H0955 - 0004

carried over the education they had received in the SS Junker Schools to their units.

Q When and in what positions were you active in the Junker Schools?

A In 1934 I was a student at the Junker School in Toelz. In 1937 I was supervising chief in the Junker School in Braunschweig. In 1941 and 1942 ~~practition~~ educator at the School in Toelz. In 1944 and 1945 I was in a hospital in Toelz for a long while since I was doing a recuperation period.

Q What was the final goal in education and training at the SS Junker Schools?

A The final goal of the education and training at the SS Junker Schools was the training of a person with high moral, physical and spiritual standards.

Q Was there an idealistic basis to the spiritual training?

A In only one way and that is that the moral standards and moral bearing of the former Knights that used to be all over Europe were kept before the eyes of these Junkers.

Q Was there supposed to be through this education a caste of Masters or Herren for the Greater Germany?

A No, there was no basis whatsoever, no idea whatsoever concerning a master race or Herrenvolk. On the other hand we considered it our duty to unify all countries of Europe in order to protect our united culture.

Q Were any foreigners allowed to visit the Junker Schools?

A Definitely. Anybody who wanted to join in this education or this goal was permitted.

Q You mentioned the guarding of the culture. Where di you see any danger?

A We considred our Western Culture endangered through an Asiatic influence.

Q You speak of the Western European Culture. Is Christianity supposed to be included in there?

H0955 - 0005

A Yes. Not only the culture of the Germanic Race or Germanic background, since that was not the only culture within Europe, was taught, but also the culture of Christianity which was the basis or part of the Germanic culture was taught at these SS Junker Schools. A religious training or religious education, however, was not used.

Q Could a SS Junker freely admit that he belonged to some Christian church without having any consequences?

A As far as a religious belief was concerned, that was no important matter within the SS Junker Schools, and also their promotion did not have anything to do with what or if they belonged to a Christian Church. In 1944 even the Valonic Volunteers were allowed to visit the catholic church in a neighboring town.

Q What was taught in the SS Junker Schools.

A There were 16 actual courses within the schools which were divided into the purely military courses, the political courses and the sport or athletic courses.

Q What was the basis for teaching of tactics and what was the goal of this education of tactics?

A The basis for the teaching of tactics was in the orders of the army. The goal of teaching these tactics was in order that these young troop officers were able to master any difficulty they might incur out on the field of battle. It was the duty of the Junker Schools to make a man ready to go up to the front line as a platoon leader.

Q Did the education in the Junkers Schools have anything to do with or was there anything taught concerning power measures or forceful measures?

A No. Any drastic or forceful methods against anyone would have been against the character of our school and against the character of our basis, that is, the ancient knights.

H0955 - 0006

Q Was the tactics education, or a branch of that education, concerned especially with a brutal carrying out of warfare?

A No. We did not speak of brutality. We spoke more of bravery, and of hardness. We expected to be in an especially brave unit. As far as hard measures were concerned, those measures against the civilian population a long way behind the front, when they were required by the military situation and never went over the customs of war.

Q In the teachings did you think of the prisoners of war and captured enemy wounded?

A The students were taught during the tactical education and also tested by the examination board concerning their knowledge of the treatment of prisoners of war and of wounded prisoners of war as well as the treatment of prisoners of war while sending them back. The Junkers also were taught according to the army regulations concerning the transportation of prisoners of war.

Q You, as teacher in the SS Junker School, did you know of any orders or guiding lines, teaching lines, or other matters, out of which it is possible to suppose that some of the possibly-carried-out crimes during the war were caused by the specific organization of the SS or due to the education that the SS received?

A No, I do not know of any such orders or guiding lines and as far as I know, no such matters were taught at the Junker Schools. However, and the basis of this was orders of the Fuehrer and the Reichs Fuehrer-SS we especially were interested and valued the education on the character basis. May I mention for instance one measure of the Fuehrer which I can remember? That was the order of the Fuehrer of June 1940 concerning the respect and the order which was to be kept concerning the enemy civilian population.

Q What was the basic content of this order?

H0955 - 0007

A This order was issued after the Occupation of France in 1940 and

COLONEL ORLOV: Will the witness please speak a little more slowly?

A (continued): The order which was issued after the Occupation of France in 1940 said that the German soldier in France should regard the French population with respect and should watch its own character and its own actions and he also warned against the drinking of too much alcohol.

H0955 - 0008

Q Could the extermination of certain people be the basis for having the biological training in the SS Junkers School?

A No.

Q What was the difference between the SS Junkers Schools and the SS Schools of the Army?

A There was basically no difference. Both the SS Junkers and the Schools of the Army had as their goal the education of a good troop officer. At the Junkers Schools of the SS the political education was brought out especially. The political education found its highest point in 1942 when volunteers from all nations over Europe came into the SS and the basis of the political education at that time was the unification and the united stand for our culture.

Q What was taught in the SS Junkers Schools from 1942 on concerning the final solution of the Jewish question?

A I want to especially point out that until my transfer out of the SS Junkers Schools in December, 1942, the following basis concerned the final solution of the Jewish questions: (1) The Jews were to be transferred together to Ghettoes or working camps for the duration of the war and after the war an orderly immigration of the Jews was to be resumed. If, however, it is proved today that already in 1941 hundreds of thousands of Jews were already murdered, then I am aware of the fact that this teaching in the SS Junkers Schools was in direct contradiction to the actual solution.

Q You received at these Junker Schools reports from the front, did you not?

A At one time all officers and teachers of the SS Junkers School

HO955-0009

came from the front and they brought along with them their own experiences from the combat or front lines. Besides that purely tactic and technical reports came through the headquarters of the SS to the Junkers Schools.

Q What was the reason why the battle in the east or the combat in the east was so much harder?

A We knew for a long time and that was the basis of our history teaching that two worlds were fighting against each other. I want to point out that the SS did not fight any harder or any different warfare, there were especially brave units on the other side. We were an especially brave unit and fought accordingly.

Q You wanted to say that both the Germans on one hand and the Russians on the other had both especially brave soldiers because this was not only a fight for their own country but a fight between two world ideals.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: What are you attempting to prove here, Dr. Koessel?

DR. KOESSEL: I want to prove that the especially harsh or rough combat in the east was not the reason behind the idealistic training of the SS Schools, but the idealistic ideals of the men that were fighting.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: Suppose there was rough combat on the eastern front, what of it? what's the point?

DR. KOESSEL: In such a severe or hard combat every soldier fights until he is killed or is injured, which is different from another battle where a soldier does not fight with such determination and idealistic background.

H0955 - 0010

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: What does this have to do with criminal actions?

DR. KOESSEL: I think quite a bit of the criminal actions which we have talked about is but a more severe type of battle between the two ideals.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: ~~This is just something which you are supposing.~~ Specifically what do you have in mind that you are trying to disapprove?

DR. KOESSEL: I want to prove that many actions, which are regarded at the present time as criminal actions, did not start from criminal ideals, but merely from this more severe type of combat.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: What actions?

DR. KOESSEL: Actions which were evaluated as criminal. For instance the speech we were talking about yesterday. Himmler's speech concerning the brutual reputation of the SS.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: I ask you about what actions you are speaking and you ~~are talking~~ reply about Himmler's speech. If you mean by actions, the ~~mass~~ extermination of ~~Poles~~ peoples, let's ~~talk about~~ speak about it.

DR. KOESSEL: I want to go over to another phase of questions since I notice the ~~President~~ Commissioner does not follow your line of thinking.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: I follow his line of thinking, but ~~he~~ his testimony does not follow the line of ~~relativity~~ relevancy which has been laid down by the court.

BY DR. KOESSEL:

Q At the SS Junkers schools were any sentences of the court ~~marshall~~ martial published, or did they become known?

A At one time or another every Junkers school student received

H0955-0011

training in the court ~~marshall~~ martial system and court ~~marshall~~ martial law. There were court ~~marshall~~ martial proceedings before the entire Junkers School students and we received reports from the SS Main Office. The students also received or heard speeches by the SS Judges.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: What is the point of this question that court ~~marshall~~ martial was were taught at the SS schools?

DR. KOESSEL: I will bring that out in the following questions.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: What isthe point?

DR. KOESSEL: If I answer your question, I am taking away the answer of the witness to the question I want to ask him.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: ~~Go on.~~ Proceed

BY DR. KOESSEL:

Q What was the reason why sentences of the court ~~marshalls~~ martial were published or became known in the SS Junkers Schools?

A The reason for this was in order to educate the men in the rights and wrongs of war. On the other hand they were also taught purely material matters concerning these court ~~marshall~~ martial in order to complete their knowledge of the troops or units.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: Why don't you ask questions like this? Were the men taught what could and could not be done in warfare? And were the proceedings for punishing people who violated the rules of in warfare?

DR. KOESSEL: I want to prove that in these SS Junker Schools in order to make the Junkers fearful of the results, we taught the court ~~marshall~~ martial system or issued the court marshall sentences for various criminal actions during warfare.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: That is just ~~what I said~~ the point. On these two ~~sentences~~ stems, you have spent ~~one half hour~~ some time.

H0955-0012

DR. KOESSEL I especially thought that the questioning was relevant and wanted it proved.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: Let's get on.

BY DR. KOESSEL:

Q I have only one more question. What influence did the party have in the political education in these schools.

A The party had no influence whatsoever on the political education in the Junkers schools. In the four years I taught in the SS Junkers schools, I did not see a member of the Nazy party, nor did I hear any speeches. We did not teach the party doctrines, but we were especially interested in a purely technical theory of an officer.

Q I am finished.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: We willrecess for ten mintes.

****

(THE COMMISSION CONVENED AT 1200 HOURS.)

CROSS EXAMINATION.

MR. MONNERAY: I have no questions.

MAJOR MURRAY: NO questions

BY COLONEL ORLOV:

Q How many years was the schooling or training?

A The one court course took nine months during peace time and during the war with active officers it was cut down to six months and for reserve officers to three months.

Q Did you also read in your school Hitler's book, "Mein Kampt?"

A I personally was not in charge of political education, however, I suppose that Hitler's book Mein Kampts was read as some sort of a basis

11

H0955-0013

for the political educational training of the school?

COLONEL ORLOV: No further questions.

BY CAPTAIN TUBRIDY:

Q Were the candidates to the school taught the rules of ground warfare as required by the Geneva convention?

A Certainly.

Q Did it come to your knowledge if any SS officers were responsible for the killing of Prisoners of War?

A I only heard of such murders after the capitulation.

Q ~~Did~~ would it come to your knowledge that the SS troops had also violated the rules of ground warfare in connection with the killing of unarmed medical men?

A No, for practical reasons we used captured medical men to treat captured enemy troops that were wounded.

Q Do you know whether there ~~that it~~ was a general policy of the SS not to take enemy officers as prisoners?

A I don't have any such knowledge.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: We will recess now until 1400 hours.

(THE COMMISSION RECESSED AT 1245 HOURS.)

****

The foregoing is a true and correct transcript of the testimony of KARL GUENTHER MOLT, taken on 14 June, 1946.

Mabel A Lesser
Reporter (pp 1-6)

Alice Meehan
Reporter (pp 7-11)

CERTIFIED TO:

Joseph F Tubridy
Commissioner.

12

OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT OF TESTIMONY FOR THE DEFENSE OF ORGANIZATIONS, TAKEN BEFORE A COMMISSION APPOINTED BY THE INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH 4 OF THE ORDER OF THE TRIBUNAL DATED 13 MARCH 1946.

14 June 1946.

H0955 - 0014

COMMISSIONER :

Captain Joseph Tubridy

THE SS

(THE COMMISSION CONVENED AT 1105 HOURS.)

KARL GUENTHER MOLT, a witness, took the stand and testified as follows :

BY CAPTAIN TUBRIDY :

Q What is your name ?

A Karl Guenther Molt.

Q Will you raise your right hand and repeat this oath after me :

I swear by God, the Almighty and Omnicient, that I will speak the pure truth and will withhold and add nothing.

(The witness repeated the oath),

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY : You may sit down.

DR. KOESSL : The witness, Molt, as a former supervising and teaching officer at the SS Junker Schools at Bad Toelz and Braunschweig, is supposed to make statements to show whether the officer material of the Waffen-SS were taught any criminal goals or criminal methods and that any possible actions against the law of War were due to the result of the organization of the SS or the teachings of the SS.

DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY DR. KOESSL :

Q Witness, since when are you with the Waffen-SS ?

A I entered the Political Readiness Squad, Wuerttenberg, in June of 1933, which was later made into an SS Reserve Group, and since then I have been with the Waffen-SS.

Q How strong at that time was the rush of people to the SS JunkersSchool to become SS officers ?

A For the first classes, as I later on found out, there were 4,800 volunteers. From these 4,800, 123 assorted men were selected and were given a pre-school training. Of these 123, 8 came to the SS Junker School of which only 4 passed.

Q After which dividing line did the permission to enter the SS Junker School occur ?

A With the exception of the first groups and with the exception of a very few exceptions which were ordered by the Reichsfuehrer-SS, the following standards had to be met by the candidates: They had to come out of the Waffen SS, that is they had to have served their duty with the Army. They must have proved their capability as a non-commissioned officer with those units and must have reached that position. Their character and moral standards had to be already proved within the outfit, that is as a comrade among the other soldiers and as a leader while he was a non-commissioned officer. During the war it also was necessary that a person was decorated for bravery before the enemy. No special education or background was required when these Junkers were selected. The main points were their physical ability, their spiritual life, that they were brave and that they had good moral character.

Q What was the position occupied by the SS Junker School in the SS ?

A The SS Junker Schools educated and trained the coming leaders of the Waffen-SS. As the number of men that came through and were trained by the SS Junker School increased, these men entered the various units and carried over the education they had received in the SS Junker Schools to their units.

Q When and in what positions were you active in the Junker Schools ?

A In 1934 I was a student at the Junker School in Toelz. In 1937 I was supervising chief in the Junker School in Braunschweig. In 1941 and 1942 educator at the School in Toelz. In 1944 and 1945 I was in a hospital in Toelz for a long while since I was doing a recuperation period.

Q What was the final goal in education and training at the SS Junker Schools ?

A The final goal of the education and training at the SS Junker Schools was the training of a person with high moral, physical and spiritual standards.

Q Was there an idealistic basis to the spiritual training ?

A In only one way and that is that the moral standards and moral bearing of the former Knights that used to be all over Europe were kept before the eyes of these Junkers.

Q Was there supposed to be through this education a caste of Masters or Herren for the Greater Germany ?

H0955 – 0015

A No, there was no basis whatsoever, no idea whatsoever concerning a master race or Herrenvolk. On the other hand we considered it our duty to unify all countries of Europe in order to protect our united culture.

Q Were any foreigners allowed to visit the Junker Schools ?

A Definitely. Anybody who wanted to join in this education or this goal was permitted.

Q You mentioned the guarding of the culture. Where did you see any danger ?

A We considered our Western Culture endangered through an Asiatic influence.

Q You speak of the Western European Culture. Is Christianity supposed to be included in there ?

H0955 - 0016

H0955-0017

A Yes. Not only the culture of the Germanic Race or Germanic background, since that was not the only culture within Europe, was taught, but also the culture of Christianity which was the basis or part of the Germanic culture was taught at these SS Junker Schools. A religious training or religious education, however, was not used.

Q Could a SS Junker freely admit that he belonged to some Christian church without having any consequences?

A As far as a religious belief was concerned, that was no important matter within the SS Junker schools, and also their promotion did not have anything to do with what or if they belonged to a Christian Church. In 1944 even the Valonic Volunteers were allowed to visit the catholic church in a neighboring town.

Q What was taught in the SS Junker Schools.

A There were 16 actual courses within the schools which were divided into the purely military courses, the political courses and the sport or athletic courses.

Q What was the basis for teaching of tactics and what was the goal of this education of tactics?

A The basis for the teaching of tactics was in the orders of the army. The goal of teaching these tactics was in order that these young troop officers were able to master any difficulty they might incur out on the field of battle. It was the duty of the Junker Schools to make a man ready to go up to the front line as a platoon leader.

Q Did the education in the Junkers Schools have anything to do with or was there anything taught concerning power measures or forceful measures?

A No. Any drastic or forceful methods against anyone would have been against the character of our school and against the character of our basis, that is, the ancient knights.

Q Was the tactics education, or a branch of that education, concerned especially with a brutal carrying out of warfare?

A No. We did not speak of brutality. We spoke more of

H0955-0018

bravery, and of hardness. We expected to be in an especially brave unit. As far as hard measures were concerned, those measures against the civilian population a long way behind the front, when they were required by the military situation and never went over the customs of war.

Q In the teachings did you think of the prisoners of war and captured enemy wounded?

A The students were taught during the tactical education and also tested by the examination board concerning their knowledge of the treatment of prisoners of war and of wounded prisoners of war as well as the treatment of prisoners of war while sending them back. The Junkers also were taught according to the army regulations concerning the transportation of prisoners of war.

Q You, as teacher in the SS Junker School, did you know of any orders or guiding lines, teaching lines, or other matters, out of which it is possible to suppose that some of the possibly-carried out crimes during the war were caused by the specific organization of the SS or due to the education that the SS received?

A No, I do not know of any such orders or guiding lines and as far as I know, no such matters were taught at the Junker Schools. However, and the basis of this was orders of the Fuehrer and the Reichs Fuehrer-SS we especially were interested and valued the education on the character basis. May I mention for instance one measure of the Fuehrer which I can remember? That was the order of the Fuehrer of June 1940 concerning the respect and the order which was to be kept concerning the enemy civilian population.

Q What was the basic content of this order?

A This order was issued after the Occupation of France in 1940 and

COLONEL ORLOV: Will the witness please speak a little more slowly?

A (continued): The order which was issued after the Occupation of France in 1940 said that the German soldier in France should regard the French population with respect and should watch its own character and its own actions and he also warned against the drinking of too much alcohol.

Q Could the extermination of certain people by the basis for having the biological training in the SS Junkers School?

A No.

Q What was the difference between the SS Junkers Schools and the SS Schools of the Army?

A There was basically no difference. Both the SS Junkers and the Schools of the Army had as their goal the education of a good troop officer. At the Junkers Schools of the SS the political education was brought out especially. The political education found its highest point in 1942 when volunteers from all nations over Europe came into the SS and the basis of the political education at that time was the unification and the united stand for our culture.

Q What was taught in the SS Junkers Schools from 1942 on concerning the final solution of the Jewish question?

A I want to especially point out that until my transfer out of the SS Junkers Schools in December, 1942, the following basis concerned the final solution of the Jewish questions:
(1) The Jews were to be transferred together to Ghettoes or working camps for the duration of the war and after the war an orderly immigration of the Jews was to be resumed. If, however, it is proved today that already in 1941 hundreds of thousands of Jews were already murdered, then I am aware of the fact that this teaching in the SS Junkers Schools was in direct contradiction to the actual solution.

Q You received at these Junker Schools reports from the front, did you not?

A At one time all officers and teachers of the SS Junkers School came from the front and they brought along with them their own experiences from the combat or front lines. Besides that purely tactic and technical reports came through the headquarters of the SS to the Junkers Schools.

Q What was the reason why the battle in the east or the combat in the east was so much harder?

H0955 - 0019

A We knew for a long time and that was the basis of our history teaching that two worlds were fighting against each other. I want to point out that the SS did not fight any harder or any different warfare, there were especially brave units on the other side. We were an especially brave unit and fought accordingly.

Q You wanted to say that both the Germans on one hand and the Russians on the other had both especially brave soldiers because this was not only a fight for their own country but a fight between two world ideals.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: What are you attempting to prove here, Dr. Koessel?

DR. KOESSEL: I want to prove that the especially harsh or rough combat in the east was not the reason behind the idealistic training of the SS Schools, but the idealistic ideals of the men that were fighting.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: Suppose there was rough combat on the eastern front, what's the point?

DR. KOESSEL: In such a severe or hard combat every soldier fights until he is killed or is injured, which is different from another battle where a soldier does not fight with such determination and idealistic background.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: What does this have to do with criminal actions?

DR. KOESSEL: I think quite a bit of the criminal actions which we have talked about is but a more severe type of battle between the two ideals.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: What actions?

DR. KOESSEL: Actions which were evaluated as criminal. For instance the speech we were talking about yesterday. Himmler's speech concerning the brutal reputation of the SS.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: I ask you about what actions you are speaking and you reply about Himmler's speech. If you mean by actions, the extermination of peoples, let's speak about it.

H0955 – 0020

DR. KOESSEL: I want to go over to another phase of questions since I notice the Commissioner does not follow your line of thinking.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: I follow his line of thinking, but his testimony does not follow the lines of relevency which have been laid down by the court.

BY DR. KOESSEL:

Q At the SS Junkers schools were any sentences of the court martial published, or did they become known?

A At one time or another every Junkers school student received

H0955 - 0021

H0955 - 0022

training in the court martial system and court martial law. There were court martial proceedings before the entire Junkers School students and we received reports from the SS Main Office. The students also received or heard speeches by the SS Judges.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: What is the point of this question that court martial were taught at the SS schools?

DR. KOESSEL: I will bring that out in the following questions.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: What is the point?

DR. KOESSEL: If I answer your question, I am taking away the answer of the witness to the question I want to ask him.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: Proceed.

BY DR. KOESSEL:

Q What was the reason why sentences of the court martial were published or became known in the SS Junkers Schools?

A The reason for this was in order to educate the men in the rights and wrongs of war. On the other hand they were also taught purely material matters concerning these court martial in order to complete their knowledge of the troops or units.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: Why don't you ask questions like this? Were the men taught what could and could not be done in warfare, and were there proceedings for punishing people who violated the rules of warfare?

DR. KOESSEL: I want to prove that in these SS Junker Schools in order to make the Junkers fearful of the results, we taught the court martial system or issued the court martial sentences for various criminal actions during warfare.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: That is just the point. On these two items you have spent some time.

DR. KOESSEL: I especially thought that the questioning was relevant and wanted it proved.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: Let's go on.

BY DR. KOESSEL:

Q I have only one more question. What influence did the party have in the political education in these schools?

H0955-0023

A The party had no influence whatsoever on the political education in the Junkers schools. In the four years I taught in the SS Junkers schools, I did not see a member of the Nazi party, nor did I hear any speeches. We did not teach the party doctrines, but we were especially interested in a purely technical theory of an officer.

Q I am finished.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: We will recess for ten minutes.

****

(THE COMMISSION CONVENED AT 1200 HOURS.)

CROSS EXAMINATION

MR. MONNERAY: I have no questions.

MAJOR MURRAY: No questions.

BY COLONEL ORLOV:

Q How many years was the schooling or training?

A The one course took nine months during peace time and during the war with active officers it was cut down to six months and for reserve officers to three months.

Q Did you also read in your school Hitler's book, "Mein Kampf"?

A I personally was not in charge of political education, however, I suppose that Hitler's book "Mein Kampf" was read as some sort of a basis for the political educational training of the school?

COLONEL ORLOV: No further questions.

BY CAPTAIN TUBRIDY:

Q Were the candidates to the school taught the rules of ground warfare as required by the Geneva convention?

A Certainly.

Q Did it come to your knowledge if any SS officers were responsible for the killing of prisoners of war?

A I only heard of such murders after the capitulation.

Q Would it come to your knowledge if the SS troops had also violated the rules of ground warfare in connection with the killing of unarmed medical men?

H0955 - 0024

A No, for practical reasons we used captured medical men to treat captured enemy troops that were wounded.

Q Do you know whether there was a general policy of the SS not to take enemy officers as prisoners?

A I don't have any such knowledge.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: We will recess now until 1400 hours.

(THE COMMISSION RECESSED AT 1245 HOURS.)

****

The foregoing is a true and correct transcript of the testimony of KARL GUENTHER MOLT, taken on 14 June, 1946.

MABEL A. LESSER
Reporter

ALICE MEEHAM
Reporter

CERTIFIED TO: JOSEPH F. TUBRIDY
Commissioner